

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 ZAGREB 00395 140705Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 L-03 H-01 SCA-01 INR-07  
CIAE-00 /027 W

-----141619Z 127955 /62

R 121422Z MAY 77  
FM AMCONSUL ZAGREB  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4473  
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ZAGREB 395

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT, SHUM, PFOR, YO, US  
SUBJECT: JUDGE FRANC MIKLAVCIC

REF: STATE 97922

1. CONGEN OFFICER ASKED ABOUT STATUS OF FRANC MIKLAVCIC SEVERAL DAYS AGO IN COURSE OF DISCUSSION OF NUMBER OF MATTERS WITH AN OFFICIAL OF SLOVENE REPUBLICAN SECRETARIAT FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION. OFFICIAL SAID HE WAS NOT FAMILIAR WITH CASE BUT WOULD TAKE NAME AND CHECK INTO IT.

2. AT NEXT MEETING, MAY 11, FULLY BRIEFED, SLOVENIAN OFFICIAL RE-PROSECUTED CASE PRETTY MUCH ALONG LINES OF INFORMATION WHICH HAD APPEARED IN PRESS WHEN MIKLAVCIC WAS SENTENCED, EMPHASIZING THAT "ANY YUGOSLAV WHO ATTEMPTS TO PORTRAY THE STRUGGLE FOR LIBERATION IN WORLD WAR II AS ANYTHING OTHER THAN PROGRESSIVE IS GOING TO FIND HIMSELF IN TROUBLE." FOR YUGOSLAV PURPOSES, OFFICIAL SAID, PEOPLE LIKE MIKLAVCIC ARE LUMPED TOGETHER WITH OLD-TIME NAZIS AND PRESENT FASCISTS IN TRIESTE. CONGEN OFFICER POINTED OUT THAT CASE HAD RECEIVED WIDESPREAD PUBLICITY IN THE UNITED STATES AND THAT INTEREST FOCUSED ON HUMAN RIGHTS ASPECT. FROM INFORMATION AVAILABLE IT SEEMED MAN HAD BEEN SENTENCED MERELY FOR EXPRESSING HIS VIEWS AND THOSE VIEWS, ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, HAD BEEN ASCERTAINED IN PART FROM  
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THE MAN'S PRIVATE DIARY.

3. SLOVENIAN OFFICIAL NOTED THAT YUGOSLAVS HAD RECEIVED FROM US PEN CLUB "A LIST" OF PERSONS IN SIMILAR SITUATION AS MIKLAVCIC. HE CHARACTERIZED THEM AS "MOSTLY PERSONS WHO STAND ON THE SIDE OF THE LIBERALISTS AND NATIONALISTS IN SERBIA AND CROATIA." IN ADDITION TO UNREDEEMED NAZIS AND FASCISTS, HE SAID,

THE LIST CONTAINED SOME OLD-STYLE BOURGEOIS. MOST HAD ESCAPED AT THE END OF WORLD WAR II, BUT SOME OF THE BOURGEOISIE STAYED BEHIND AND CONTINUE TO EXPRESS DISAGREEMENT WITH PRESENT POLICIES. ACCORDING TO OFFICIAL, "THERE CAN BE AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS, BUT THIS CANNOT BE DONE WITH INFLAMMATORY LANGUAGE," AND HE AGAIN EMPHASIZED THAT ONLY A "PROGRESSIVE" ACCOUNT OF WORLD WAR II IS ACCEPTABLE.

4. HE SAID HE COULD NOT STATE "OFFICIALLY" BUT HE "UNDERSTOOD" THERE WAS TO BE A REDUCTION OR AMNESTY OF MIKLAVCIC'S SENTENCE. THIS WOULD BE PART OF A "COUNTRY-WIDE- PROGRAM AND WOULD COVER A NUMBER OF PERSONS WITH CASES SIMILAR TO MIKLAVCIC'S. HE DID NOT GIVE A DATE FOR THE "AMNESTY" BUT DID NOT DISAGREE THAT IT MIGHT COINCIDE WITH TITO'S BIRTHDAY, MAY 25. KAISER

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Concepts:** REPORTS, AMENDMENTS, COURT DECISIONS, TRIALS, PRISONERS RELEASE, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** JUDGE FRANC MIKLAVCIC  
**TAGS:** PINT, SHUM, PFOR, YO, US, (MIKLAVCIC, FRANC)  
**To:** STATE  
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